Howland Wood - Curatorial

American Red Cross

[Washington, D.C.]

1918-1921

August 12th, 1918.

Mr. Henry P. Atwater,
Director of the Bureau of Standards,
American Red Cross,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

The enclosed letter is partly explanatory. We are holding an exhibition of the Insignia and Devices on the uniform of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, such as collar, shoulder marks, chevrons, &c. We are including the various auxiliaries and are showing the different marks, badges, hat and arm bands, &c. of the Y.M.C.A., Salvation Army, &c. We have written several times to the Red Cross, and have been unable to get anything but a small enamel cross of about one inch in size which they said was all that they used in Europe.

Mrs. Belmont was up here one day and was surprised that we did not have a better showing, and said that there were various marks, devices and brassards worn by the different branches of the Red Cross, such as canteen workers, &c.

We would very much appreciate if you could furnish us either by loan or purchase a representative display in keeping of the Red Cross. We are not showing uniforms, simply cloth or metal devices to be attached to the uniform.

Yours very truly,

Curator.

FORM NO 381

NATIONAL OFFICERS
WOODROW WILSON, PRESIDENT
ROBERT W. DE FOREST, VICE-PRESIDENT
JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS, TREASURER
JOHN W. DAVIS, COUNSELOR
STOCKTON AXSON, SECRETARY

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
CHAIRMAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE
ELIOT WADSWORTH, VICE-CHAIRMAN
HARVEY D. GIBSON, GENERAL MANAGER

# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RED CROSS WAR COUNCIL
BY APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

HENRY P. DAVISON, CHAIRMAN
JOHN D. RYAN
CORNELIUS N. BLISS, JR.
HARVEY D. GIBSON
GEORGE B. CASE

EX OFFICIO
WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
ELIOT WADSWORTH

August 14, 1918.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of August 12th, addressed to Mr. Atwater, was received.

The matter of the Red Cross participating in an exhibit in your society was referred to this office in July. At that time it was felt that there was no reason for the Red Cross participating in the exhibit, because of the fact that the principal uniforms and insignia of the Red Cross are worn only in the theatre of war, or in the army cantonments and there is no reason for the public recognizing the Red Cross workers by their uniforms.

The Red Cross, of course, has a great many insignia, such as membership badges, buttons, flags, certain chevrons, devices for special services and a number of so-called uniforms used in connection with Chapter work. As a matter of interest and general information a display of such insignia would, no doubt, be desirable from the public standpoint, but at this time we have no collection of the material for exhibition purposes and moreover we are engaged in a general review and revision of our uniform specifications and insignia. This review has been made necessary by reason of the recent action on the part of the War Department and in view of previously contemplated changes, which have not yet been put into effect.

I shall be very glad to keep your request in mind and, if possible, to arrange in some way to furnish material for your exhibit, perhaps in the near future. I will take this question up with the General Manager and do what I can to make the necessary arrangements. I believe that this would be the more desirable arrangement than to attempt to furnish you any material, which may become obsolete in the near future, and,as your exhibit is to be a permanent one, we can afford to proceed carefully in the matter.

Very truly yours,

Austen Gorsley

Director, Bureau of Standards.

AG-LLN

August 17th, 1918.

Auston Gailey, Esq.,
Director, Bureau of Standards,
The American Red Cross,
National Headquarters,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of August 14th at hand concerning certain insignia, &c. worn by Red Cross workers.

Our exhibition will run here in New York into November, possibly later. The probabilities then are that it will be transferred to some other city. The exhibition is displayed in shallow flat cases, and we are showing nothing in the way of uniforms, simply devices and insignia, virtually distinguishing marks, such as cap, collar, shoulder or sleeve devices. We would like to show such of these that you now use, and later when you make changes what new devices you may have. Changes, by the way, are part of our exhibition as both the Army and Navy have made several changes since we opened up. I am pressing this point for some sort of a showing as we want the Red Cross to have as good an exhibit as the other organizations.

For your guidance I will give you an outline of what tow other organizations furnished:-

Salvation Army: Hat Band, Bronze Collar Devices, Shoulder Straps, Embroidered Crest worn on Caps (8 varieties), Arm Insignia (Men and Women).

Y.M.C.A.: Bronze Collar Device and the different forms of their Red Triangle worn on cap or sleeve, Hat Cord.

Yours very truly,

Curator.

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# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RED CROSS WAR COUNCIL
BY APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

HENRY P. DAVISON, CHAIRMAN
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HARVEY D. GIBSON
GEORGE B. CASE

EX OFFICIO
WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
ELIOT WADSWORTH

August 23, 1918.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge your letter of August 17th, concerning the Red Cross exhibit of insignia, etc.

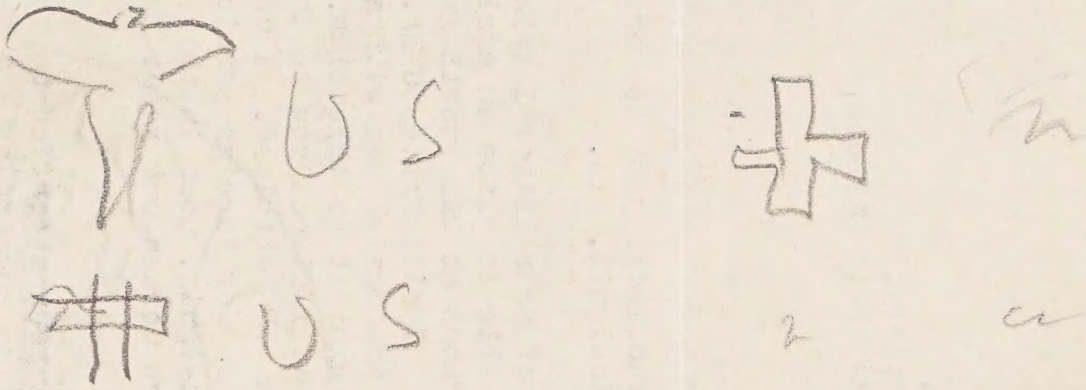
Since receipt of your letter I talked with Mrs. Belmont about the items which we may be able to place on exhibit. I would suggest that you visit our New York Branch at 222 Fourth Avenue, and call upon Mr. Read, the office manager there. I will write to Mr. Read, so that he will expect you, and will request that he furnish you with a sample of each device, which may be available for your exhibit at this time. At least, if Mr. Read cannot furnish these himself, he will direct you to the Equipment Bureau, in the same office, where these may be obtained. I understand that the insignia and devices which you desire are for foreign service only. We have in addition to this our Motor Corps insignia, used in this country, but I would rather wait until such details are worked out regarding this uniform before furnishing you with this insignia.

I wish to call your attention to the fact that anything that you place on exhibit at this time, concerning the Red Cross insignia and devices, will be subject to change in the near future, because the whole question of our uniforms and insignia is now under careful study at National Headquarters, and I am unable to predict what the final solution will bring forth.

Very truly yours,

Director, Bureau of Standards.

AG-LLN




Klein.

FORM NO. 381

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WOODROW WILSON, PRESIDENT
ROBERT W. DE FOREST, VICE-PRESIDENT
WILLIAM H. TAFT, VICE-PRESIDENT
JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS, TREASURER
ALEXANDER C. KING, COUNSELOR
STOCKTON AXSON, SECRETARY

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

BRANCH OFFICE OF
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
222 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE, GRAMERCY 5000
BUREAU OF PERSONNEL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FRANKLIN K. LANE
MERRITTE W. IRELAND
WILLIAM C. BRAISTED
HENRY P. DAVISON
ELIOT WADSWORTH
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GEORGE E. SCOTT

LIVINGSTON FARRAND, CHAIRMAN
WILLOUGHBY G. WALLING, VICE-CHAIRMAN

FREDERICK C. MUNROE, GENERAL MANAGER

July 16, 1919.

American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 156th Street,
New York City.

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I have just written to the Greek Consul General in accordance with a telephone conversation which I had with you this morning.

Very truly yours,

L. E. Loch

Associate Director,
Bureau of Personnel.

LEL/P

July 16, 1919.

Consul General of Greece,
146 West 4th Street,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Yesterday I restored to you the Greek Military Medal, Fourth Class and the Diploma issued in error to Dr. Abner J. Cobb.

May I suggest that instead of returning this medal to the Minister of War at Athens that you ask his permission to deposit it with the American Numismatic Society, Broadway and 156th Street, New York City. This Society maintains a museum which contains a beautiful collection of coins and of foreign decorations. They have no copies of the Greek Military Medals and I am sure that they would appreciate very much your courtesy if it may be extended to them.

Very truly yours,

Associate Director,
Bureau of Personnel

LEL/P

FORM NO. 381

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WILLIAM L. FRIERSON, COUNSELOR

MABEL T. BOARDMAN, SECRETARY

# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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GEORGE E. SCOTT
EDWARD R. STITT
ELIOT WADSWORTH

FREDERICK C. MUNROE, GENERAL MANAGER

March 7, 1921.

Mr. Arthur C. Wyman,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155 & 156 Streets,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

The Committee on Awards of the Red Cross voted at its last meeting to approve the purchase of Red Cross medals by your Society for exhibition purposes. The Committee regretted that no way was open by which we could present these medals to you, but I believe you will readily understand our decision that the Red Cross cannot use its funds in that way.

The medals cost as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Silver medal ..... | $ 11.50 |
| Case for silver medal ..... | 4.50 |
| Bronze medal ..... | 7.50 |
| Case for bronze medal ..... | 2.90 |

The design for the silver and bronze medals is the same. If you will let me know what medals you desire to purchase I shall be very glad to procure them for you.

Yours sincerely,

James K. McClintock

Secretary, Committee on Awards.

March 9th, 1921.

James K. McClintock, Esq.,
Secretary, Committee of Awards,
American Red Cross,
National Headquarters,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of March 7th at hand, and we wish you would send us one silver medal at $11.50 and one bronze medal at $7.50, together with your bill, and remittance will be made promptly. We do not care for cases for either of the medals.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

FORM NO. 331

NATIONAL OFFICERS

WOODROW WILSON, PRESIDENT

ROBERT W. DE FOREST, VICE-PRESIDENT

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS, TREASURER

ALEXANDER C. KING, COUNSELOR

MABEL T. BOARDMAN, SECRETARY

# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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MRS. AUGUST BELMONT
GEORGE E. SCOTT

LIVINGSTON FARRAND, CHAIRMAN
WILLOUGHBY G. WALLING, VICE-CHAIRMAN
FREDERICK P. KEPPEL, VICE-CHAIRMAN

FREDERICK C. MUNROE, GENERAL MANAGER

March 11, 1921.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th & 156 Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

In Mr. McClintock's absence I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 9, 1921, and to advise you that we are today placing an order for the following medals:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | silver medal ..... | $ 11.50 |
| 1 | bronze medal ..... | 7.50 |

As soon as we receive these medals we will forward them to you.

Very truly yours,

Mabel E. Peirce.

Committee on Awards.

FORM 381

NATIONAL OFFICERS
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# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
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W. FRANK PERSONS, VICE CHAIRMAN
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MABEL T. BOARDMAN
HENRY P. DAVISON
MERRITTE W. IRELAND
GEORGE E. SCOTT
EDWARD R. STITT
ELIOT WADSWORTH

April 15, 1921.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Wood:

The Committee on Awards of the American Red Cross has reconsidered the question of making a charge to your Society for one silver and one bronze medal of the American Red Cross, for which you asked.

The Committee regrets that any suggestion as to a charge should have been made. Your Society has been most helpful and the relations between it and the American Red Cross have always been most cordial and co-operative. We feel, therefore, that it would be only fitting that these two medals should be presented to the American Numismatic Society by the Committee and with the compliments and thanks of the American Red Cross.

The medals are being shipped to you by registered parcel post today and I hope will arrive in good condition.

Most sincerely yours,

Eliot Wadsworth

Chairman, Committee on Awards.

April 18th, 1921.

The American Red Cross,
National Headquarters,
Washington, D. C.

Attention of Mr. Eliot Wadsworth,
Chairman, Committee of Awards.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of April 15th together with the two medals came to hand Saturday.

On behalf of The American Numismatic Society I beg to thank the Committee of Award for their kindness in presenting these two medals to our Museum.

Kindly let me know the official name for each of these medals and just for what they are awarded, as we would like to have all the facts for our records.

Most truly yours,

Curator.

FORM 381

NATIONAL OFFICERS
WOODROW WILSON, PRESIDENT
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WILLIAM L. FRIERSON, COUNSELOR
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# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
LIVINGSTON FARRAND, CHAIRMAN
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MABEL T. BOARDMAN
HENRY P. DAVISON
MERRITTE W. IRELAND
GEORGE E. SCOTT
EDWARD R. STITT
ELIOT WADSWORTH

April 20, 1921.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

In the absence of Mr. Eliot Wadsworth at National Headquarters, I am replying to your letter of April 18th., and am giving below a brief description of the purposes for which our silver and bronze medals have been awarded.

Silver Medal For Distinguished Service.

This medal is awarded for highly distinguished service to the Red Cross in time of war, a service unique in character and pronounced in effect. The silver medal and the bronze medal cited below have been awarded by the American Red Cross only to foreigners who assisted with special distinction in the work of the American Red Cross Commissions throughout the world.

Bronze Medal For Highly Meritorious Service.

This medal is awarded for highly meritorious service to the Red Cross in time of war. The medal has been awarded to foreigners who rendered highly meritorious service to the American Red Cross during the war and has also been awarded to the families of all Red Cross personnel who died in the service of the Red Cross during the war, at home or overseas.

I trust the above description will fulfill your needs.

Sincerely yours,

H. J. Hughes

Vice Chairman,
Committee on Awards.

HJH-k